

With Glad

Our Blessings

Like the first Christians, our Covenant community is experiencing a time of tremendous blessings. In this time of economic uncertainty, the blessings of God in worship, congregational life and service continue to fill us with deep gratitude; confident that as a community of faith, like the first Christians, we will share all our blessings for the glory of God, the building up of the church and service in the world. Indeed, our hearts are glad!

Christian Education

Our congregation continues to receive and share the blessings of strong Christian education classes for children and adults. This fall, ninety children and more than seventy adults began a new year of learning and growing together through instruction provided by our program staff and the generous giving of their own time by many of our members. We continue to be blessed with a vibrant youth ministry, which began the fall with an enthusiastic sixty-five teens coming together to connect, share, and learn with one another.



“Day by day, they spent much time together
...with glad and generous hearts
praising God and having the goodwill
of all the people.” Acts 2:46, 47

& Generous Hearts



Worship

Worship is being blessed as the gifts of our pastoral staff, our choir, elder liturgists, lay readers and others lead us in worshipping God together. Over the past year, our worship attendance has continued to grow. We know it's not about numbers but in counting our blessings, each number represents a precious person of God bringing their gifts to share.

Congregational Nurture

The Congregational Life Committee has coordinated another exciting year of Dinners for Eight for over one hundred of our members and friends. Also, responding to the suggestion of having occasional fellowship events for older adults, the Congregational Life Committee sponsored a luncheon and program for dozens of members earlier this fall. And our Parish Nurse, Mary Ircink, continues to educate and provide important support for the health and wellness of our congregation.

National & International Mission & Outreach

The Outreach Council has successfully coordinated a team of ten people for our Guatemala mission trip in January 2010 to continue our important ministry there. Through your generosity, Covenant also has supported other programs around the world, such as the ministries of the Braaksmas, Shirley Hill, and Eric Miller in Africa and the nursing school in Haiti.

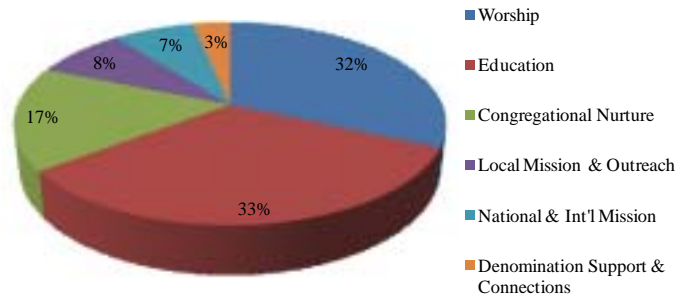
Local Mission & Outreach

In a time when many local charitable organizations have suffered severe cutbacks in funding and donations, Covenant has continued to respond joyfully and gratefully to the blessings that we have received by reaching out to others in need in our community, such as Habitat for Humanity, Porchlight, Madison Urban Ministry, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, and Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, and opening our church facility for use by The Road Home (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network), Family Enhancement, and 19 other community groups.



The 2010 Proposed Operating Budget

In 2010, Covenant seeks to continue to praise God by joyfully and generously sharing with each other and with the larger community the goodwill and grace that God has shown to us. In considering an operating budget for 2010, the Session determined that in this time of unprecedented economic difficulty, which has deeply affected many of Covenant's members, it is more important than ever that the Session exercise responsible stewardship over the money that the congregation so generously gives. In that spirit, the proposed budget for 2010 reduces overall spending for operating expenses. The Session strived to ensure that the 2010 budget would allow Covenant to continue rich worship experiences, to provide excellent and varied Christian education, meaningful fellowship and strong support for local, national, and international mission and outreach programs. This activity-based budget shows the percentage of the total proposed budget (\$871,509) devoted to each dimension of our church ministry.



Your generous pledge for 2010, given in joyful praise for God's gifts, will permit Covenant to continue its important work of mission and ministry. We hope that as you and your family prayerfully discern how you will celebrate your blessings and share your gifts that you will experience the joy of giving with glad and generous hearts.



Covenant Presbyterian Church

2010 Stewardship Campaign

"With glad & generous hearts"

Commitment Sunday is November 15, 2009.

Please remember to bring your completed pledge card to church that day.



For questions, or if you either did not receive or need another pledge form, please contact Mary Kieta at 608-233-6297 or mkieta@covenantmadison.org.

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